

Giving over 215,000 Technician class licensee's access to portions of the HF band is going to cause chaos due to many operators crammed in an already overcrowded band segment. Morse code examination has been a very important aspect of amateur radio and should be continued as requirement for HF access. As the VE team leader for a local radio club, I have found most examinees that have passed Element 1, have taken the time to actually study theory that is required for higher class licenses and follow better operating practices, instead of just memorizing the question pool like every 1 out of 2 technician class applicants that come in for a test. Morse code is a skill that can't be memorized like the question pool, and some people just don't want to spend more than the few days that it takes to memorize the question pool.

I therefore recommend that Petition RM-10805 be dismissed.

Respectfully,
Mark A. Skowronski, K9MQ